

# THE COLUMN

THE AHA CENTRE NEWS BULETIN



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ONE ASEAN  
ONE RESPONSE

VOLUME 16  
**2016**

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One ASEAN One Response

2016

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With the series of earthquake that recently shook the Island of Kyushu in Japan and the Sagaing Region in Myanmar, ASEAN and the wider Asia-Pacific region continue to show their resilience and determination in managing disasters. It has been proven time and time that disaster events do not divide parties, but rather bring them together, with the Government of Japan and the AHA Centre having conducted Executive Briefing with ten National Disaster Management Offices (NDMOs) on the Japan Earthquake, as covered in our New Story.

On this edition, we are also pleased to share the coverage on the opening ceremony of the AHA Centre Executive (ACE) Programme Third Batch. This hands-on training welcomed participant from ASEAN Member States and will conclude for six months. During its programme, we will highlight their journey in our ACE Corner every month.

In late April the 28th ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) Meeting was held in Semarang back-to-back with the fourth AHA Centre Governing Board Meeting and other relevant meetings. This year, we witnessed the handover of chairmanship from Cambodia to Indonesia as the Chair of ACDM and Governing Board of the AHA Centre. One of the highlights was the launching of the new AADMER Work Programme 2016-2020 during the AADMER Partnership Conference.

Finally, it is our pleasure to reveal the new logo of the AHA Centre this month. We hope the readers are as excited as we are too. If you wish to share some stories / articles / blogs / comments with us to improve the bulletin, please drop us a message at [comm@ahacentre.org](mailto:comm@ahacentre.org), and we will do the rest.

Sincerely,  
The Column Editor



The Column is a monthly news bulletin from the AHA Centre – capturing the latest activities from the organisation.

## NEWS HIGHLIGHT

### The 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) and Other Relevant Meetings



Group photo of the Governing Board Meeting of the AHA Centre

The ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) is a committee that serves to review and enhance regional cooperation on disaster management under the framework of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER).

This year the 28th Meeting of ACDM was held in Semarang, Indonesia back-to-back with the 4th Meeting of the Governing Board of the AHA Centre, 5th Meeting of the Joint Task Force to Promote Synergy with Other Relevant ASEAN Bodies on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), ACDM Session on East Asia Summit (EAS) Cooperation on Disaster Management and 3rd ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Partnership Conference, all held from 26 – 29 April 2016.

This year, we witnessed the handover of Chairmanship of ACDM and the Governing Board of the AHA Centre from Cambodia to Indonesia. The ACDM Meeting was officially opened and witnessed by H.E. Ma Norith (Cambodia), H.E. Willem Rampangilei (Indonesia) and Mr Ganjar Pranowo (Governor of Central Java, Indonesia).

Several highlights discussion taken from the 28th Meeting of ACDM were:

- Updates from the ACDM Working Groups
- Implementation of the new AADMER Work Programme 2016-2020
- Operationalising the One ASEAN One Response
- Institutionalising partnership of ASEAN on disaster management

ACDM Focal points and representatives from all 10 ASEAN Member States (AMS), as well as representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat and the AHA Centre attended the meeting.

Meanwhile on the second day, the 4th Meeting of the Governing Board of the AHA Centre took place and discussed several topics such as:

- Progress on the Operationalisation of the AHA Centre (As of 31 March 2016)
- Support from ASEAN Dialogue Partners and Partners to the AHA Centre (as of 31 March 2016)
- Signed Host Country Agreement of the AHA Centre with the Government of Indonesia

Speaking to the media, Mr Said Faisal, the Executive Director of the AHA Centre said “The AHA Centre appreciates the Chairmanship of Indonesia in 2016, on the field of disaster management in ASEAN. Indonesia through BNPB indeed has shared abundant knowledge and experience on responding disasters to ASEAN, understanding the experience that Indonesia has on disaster management.”

As part of the discussion on the 5th Meeting of the Joint Task Force to Promote Synergy with Other Relevant ASEAN Bodies on Humanitarian HADR, the meeting discussed several planning of ASEAN on HADR exercises in 2016 such as:

- ASEAN Regional Disaster Emergency Response Simulation Exercise (ARDEX), to be held in Brunei Darussalam
- Table-top Exercise for the East Asia Summit Rapid Disaster Response Toolkit, to be held in Indonesia
- ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM) Plus Expert Working Group on HADR, to be held in Thailand

During the last day of the series of meetings, the 3rd AADMER Partnership Conference was held with participation from all ASEAN Member States, ASEAN Secretariat, AHA Centre, ASEAN Dialogue Partners as well as partners of the AADMER Work Programme. One of the key highlights was the Introduction on the ASEAN Vision 2025 on Disaster Management and AADMER Work Programme 2016-2020, consisting of several priority programmes.

The meeting was in parallel with discussion and statements from relevant partners, and it was officially concluded with a statement from the Chair of ACDM and Deputy-Secretary General of ASEAN.

The meeting was proceeding with a parallel's discussion and statement from the partners and officially concluded by statement from the Chair of ACDM and Deputy-Secretary General of ASEAN.



CHAIR

Mr. Dody Ruswandi,  
Chair of ACDM and  
Governing Board of  
the AHA Centre

Mr. Prasong  
Vonkhamchanh,  
Vice Chair of  
ACDM and  
Governing Board  
of the AHA Centre



28th ASEAN Committee on Disaster management (ACDM) Meeting



East Asia Summit (EAS) Session



3rd AADMER Partnership Conference



## INTERVIEWS

### LAO PDR

Minister of Labour and  
Social Welfare



Left  
**Mr. Saksy Vilayhak**  
ACE Programme Officer from Lao PDR

Right  
**Ms. Vimala Khountalangsy**  
ACE Programme Officer from Lao PDR

What do you think about the programme so far? Do you enjoy it?

V

**Vimala and Saksy**

Yes, we enjoy it very much. This programme has allowed us to expand our networking amongst ASEAN Member States (AMS) within the field of disaster management. We've heard good things about the programme from our colleagues in the previous batches, but now we get to experience for ourselves the usefulness of this programme as we put our knowledge into practice.

S

Based on your experience in the disaster management/humanitarian field, what do you think is the most important thing to remember when managing a disaster?

V

**Vimala**

When we handle a disaster, I think it is very important to have a strategic plan for the whole periods of disaster; pre-disaster, during disaster, and post-disaster. When disaster occurs, we should remember that our function is to save people's lives. Therefore, we should be ready – how to relocate them to safer areas, provide them with basic needs and other kinds of basic necessities, and also come up with a plan on how to facilitate early recovery.

V

**Vimala**

First, a leader should have confidence, because a leader will deal with so many people - victims and local agencies. Confidence will allow a leader to gain insight on how to project themselves and make their teammates proud. Second, a leader should be friendly, to listen to others, be open-minded and have relevant qualifications in order to build and maintain relationship with many different people. Lastly, a leader should have good management and planning skills to ensure the welfare of all people involved.

S

**Saksy**

I think a good leader should be knowledgeable. He or she should have sufficient knowledge and understanding about the disaster itself, also regarding the locals that he/she will be dealing with. They should also have good communication skills.

What do you wish to obtain through the ACE Programme? What aspects about yourself that you wish to improve?

V

**Vimala**

I want to be a good leader, so I am very much looking forward to the leadership training. I also hope to improve my English skills, gain more knowledge and skills in disaster management especially in managing emergency responses, and build good relationship with other fellow participants. Last but not least, I want to learn how to operate the Disaster Management & Response System (DMRS), EOC, ICT, and logistics needs so I can perform my responsibilities in responding to emergencies and providing relief items for the victims of the disaster events.

S

**Saksy**

I want to be a better communicator, I hope to improve my English communicating skills, and I also want to expand my knowledge surrounding the disaster management field.



ACE CORNER is a special column dedicated to report the activities of the current ACE Programme



ACE Programme is a 6-month leadership training in disaster management, held by the AHA Centre with participants coming from ASEAN Member States







## NEWS STORY

### Introducing the New Identity of the AHA Centre

After four years of establishment, AHA Centre has reassessed their logo through a meticulous brand perception audit. The Previous AHA Centre logo was developed to project identity of a new organisation, while maintaining the ASEAN identity. In the new logo, AHA Centre still carries that identity but with several new elements:



ASEAN Emblem represents the ASEAN identity of the AHA Centre as the official coordinating agency in humanitarian assistance on disaster management in the region



The red colour in "AHA" depicts energy and passion, while black in "CENTRE" represents the formality of being the coordinating centre or humanitarian assistance on disaster management of ASEAN



The ten half-circle shape represents the ten National Disaster Management Offices (NDMOs) in ASEAN



The outer-bold half-circle shape represents the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management as the founding fathers of the AHA Centre and also as the Governing Board of the AHA Centre

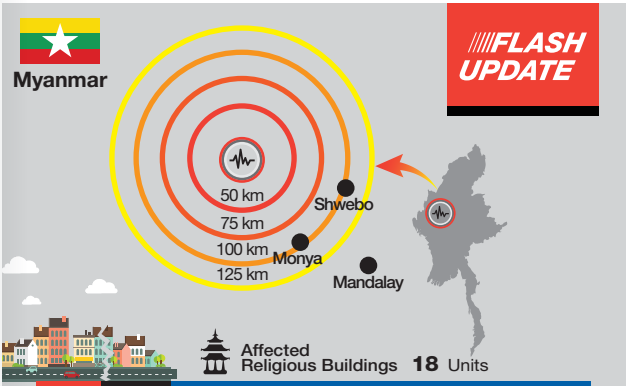


### ONE ASEAN ONE RESPONSE

Combined altogether, all elements create a united identity for the vision of One ASEAN One Response

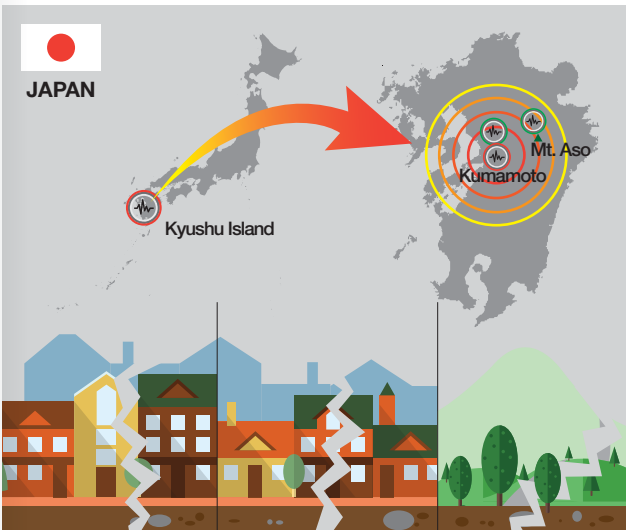
As the new logo was endorsed at the 3rd Meeting of the Governing Board of the AHA Centre in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, December 2015, the AHA Centre is pleased to incorporate the new logo as the new identity for the AHA Centre.

The AHA Centre hopes that the spirit of unity embodied in the new logo captures the solidarity and the collective efforts of ASEAN, as the AHA Centre moves toward the vision of 'One ASEAN One Response'.



### Myanmar Earthquake

Data based on AHA Centre's Flash Update 15 April 2016



**6.4 Magnitude Earthquake in Kumamoto City, Kyushu Island**

**7.3 Magnitude Earthquake at a depth of around 10 Kilometers**

**5.8 Magnitude Earthquake in Kumamoto-ken Aso-Chiho area.**

No Electricity **13,000** Houses

Death **44** People

No Water **119,000** Houses

Injured **1,117** People

### Japan Earthquake

Data based on AHA Centre's Flash Update 19 April 2016

## INSIGHTS

### 4 Principles Guiding International Humanitarian and Human Rights Law

Speaking to The Column, Mr. Hannes Goegele, Humanitarian Affairs Officer of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), explained the four principles that guide international humanitarian and human rights law:



#### Humanity

Human suffering must be addressed wherever it is found to protect life and

ensure respect for human beings and their dignity. Humanitarian officers should ensure affected individuals have access to basic needs and are able to claim their rights, and avoid discrimination.



#### Neutrality

Humanitarian actors must not take sides in conflict and not participate in hostilities. It is important

for humanitarian officers to avoid controversies in political, racial, religious or ideological nature.



#### Impartiality

Humanitarian action must be carried out on the basis of needs, and making no subjective distinctions.

Priorities should be given based on the urgency of the case, and not based on nationality, race, gender, religious belief, class or political opinions.



#### Independence

Humanitarian action must be autonomous from political, economic, or military objectives.

INSIGHTS is a special column for guest contributors, and does not necessarily reflect or represent AHA Centre's point of view.

## THE OTHER SIDE



*"My Biggest Responsibility has always been and will always be to drive the company forward, even during the most challenging times"*

Mr. Sunu Widyatmoko  
CEO of AirAsia Indonesia

In this month's edition, The Column talked with The CEO of AirAsia Indonesia, Mr. Sunu Widyatmoko after his inspirational discussion on the Leader Talks – ACE Programme. As the number one leader in AirAsia Indonesia, Mr. Sunu Widyatmoko's experiences, knowledge, and professional outlook as a leader have embedded us through the interview with The Column.

### Can you share how your journey in AirAsia began? Has working in the airline industry always interest you?

I joined AirAsia Indonesia in 2013 as Chief Financial Officer. Prior to joining AirAsia Indonesia, I spent more than 17 years in the corporate finance field. I was also involved in bringing big-scale enterprises public, including airline companies, which has proven to be valuable experiences.

In July 2014, less than a year as AirAsia Indonesia's CFO, I was entrusted to take the helm at AirAsia Indonesia. I vividly remember when Tony Fernandes (AirAsia Group CEO and Founder) said to me that I was "fired" as the CFO of AirAsia Indonesia. Soon after, I was told that we needed to find a replacement for the CFO position as I would be assuming a new role as CEO of AirAsia Indonesia. I was taken aback; I did not see it coming.

I have always loved challenges. Having been involved in the initial public offering process of one of Indonesia's largest airlines, I knew that the aviation industry is exposed to multiple risk factors, from currency and fuel price volatility to external events beyond our control. I believed driving an airline to strive in efficiency whilst maintaining service and operational excellence would be an interesting opportunity.

But more importantly, I was inspired by the people behind AirAsia Indonesia. When I was offered to join the company as CFO, one of the commissioners said that the company has a unique culture. It has no bureaucracy; instead it values openness, ideas, and a can-do attitude. Anyone can come up to the senior management to express their ideas or to simply have a casual chat. We're a tight-knit family. I would be hard-pressed to find such a culture anywhere else.

### Now that you are CEO of AirAsia Indonesia, what do you think is the most challenging aspect in leading this company?

We do not take winning the World's Best Low Cost Carrier for seven consecutive years for granted. It was a result of team work, driven by motivation to stay ahead. Seven years on, getting people to stay motivated and innovative in delivering nothing less than the best is a challenge in itself.

### What do you think are the top three qualities that a leader should have? Can we relate these questions to humanitarian workers?

The top three qualities a leader should have are accountability, ability to manage by heart, and to inspire.

Accountability is indeed important. When the leader shows up and leads, especially during a crisis, the situation may not necessarily get better, but it will undoubtedly induce confidence in the team.

Equally important is managing your people by heart. Humanitarian workers should be able to put themselves in the shoes of the victims they are helping. Same goes with leaders. You need to consciously relate your decision and policy to the situation you and those you lead encounter.

Ability to inspire is also key. This is even more crucial during a crisis as people tend to be demotivated when they are faced with difficult situations.

### Being a leader also means that you need to be able to make decision for the courtesy of your company, how does it feel to have such a big responsibility? Can you share some interesting experiences when you have had to take on big responsibilities?

My biggest responsibility has always been and will always be to drive the company forward, even during the most challenging times.

One of the biggest responsibilities was to lead the team and keep them motivated during QZ8501. It was not easy for everyone involved, but having a great team behind me made it a lot easier. We kept each other motivated while we navigated the challenges together.

### You were the speaker in Leader Talks of ACE Programme last month, what do you think of the programme? How do you think this will benefit the ASEAN Region?

I am honoured to share my experiences and knowledge with AHA Centre Executives, and to help contribute in preparing them as ASEAN future leaders for disaster management. Our region is very prone to crisis. It is imperative that we prepare our future leaders for crisis management. I believe having disaster management experts becomes increasingly important.

THE OTHER SIDE is a special column where we interview professional players in disaster management. Crafted with light discussion in a casual manner, THE OTHER SIDE captures the human side, up close and personal. This section does not necessarily reflect or represent AHA Centre's point of view.

# One **ASEAN** One **Response**

## About ASEAN

*The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on 8 August 1967. The Member States of the Association are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. The ASEAN Secretariat is based in Jakarta, Indonesia. As set out in the ASEAN Declaration, the aims and purposes of ASEAN among others are to accelerate the economic growth, social progress, cultural development, to promote regional peace and stability as well as to improve active collaboration and cooperation.*

## About The AHA Centre

*The AHA Centre is an inter-governmental organisation established on 17 November 2011, through the signing of the Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) by ASEAN Foreign Ministers, witnessed by the ASEAN Heads of States, from 10 ASEAN Member States: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. The Centre was set-up to facilitate the cooperation and coordination among ASEAN Member States and with the United Nations and international organisations for disaster management and emergency response in the ASEAN region.*

## About AADMER

*The ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) is a legally-binding regional multi-hazard and policy framework for cooperation, coordination, technical assistance and resource mobilisation in all aspects of disaster management in the 10 ASEAN Member States. The objective of AADMER is to provide an effective mechanism to achieve substantial reduction of disaster losses in lives and in social, economic and environmental assets, and to jointly respond to emergencies through concerted national efforts.*

### Talk To Us:



[www.ahacentre.org](http://www.ahacentre.org)



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ONE **RESPONSE**